

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Real-time images and audio are monitored from a remote place anytime at an arbitrary place with a portable telephone. The portable telephone comprises a display panel which can display a moving image, an image signal receiving part which receives an image signal sent over the mobile communication network N2, an image signal reproducing part which reproduces the image signal which has been received by this image signal receiving part and makes the display part display the reproduced image, and a permission signal sending part for sending a permission signal to permit an image-pickup part to output an image signal to the image-pickup part to be connected via the mobile communication network. According to another aspect, a portable information terminal is constructed so that the sender can easily send information of the place or surrounding view where he/she is, and comprises a sending/receiving part which sends/receives an image signal via the mobile communication network, a display panel which displays an image according to the received image signal, and a CCD camera which performs imaging and sends an image signal by the sending/receiving part. The view of the surrounding area is imaged by the CCD camera, the obtained image signal is sent to another portable telephone that is line-connected via the mobile communication network, and thus the picked-up image of the surrounding area is displayed on the display panel of the other portable telephone.